GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:836
ANSWERED ON:22.10.2008
PRIVATE SECTOR IN NUCLEAR ENERGY
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Will the Minister of PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

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(a) whether the Government proposes to involve Private Sector in the nuclear energy sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof including policy guidelines in this regard;

(c) whether some foreign companies have offered to set up joint ventures in this sector in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof including the names of these companies;and

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER`S OFFICE AND MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a) & (b) Currently,Nuclear Power Stations can be set up only by Central Government or a Central Government Company in accordance with the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act.Supply of equipment,services etc. for nuclear power station can however be done by private sector.

(c) to (e) Considering the possibilities of setting up of Light Water Reactors based on foreign cooperation,Rosatom (Russian Federation),AREVA (France),General Electric & Westinghouse (USA) have been holding exploratory discussions with Nuclear Power Corporation of India: LimitedNPCIL).All aspects of setting up such projects will be comprehensively considered by the Government before according approval.